

March 19, 2006

Obit: Caroline H. Kant



- Funeral services for Mrs. Caroline Helen Kant, age 85, of Butte, Nebraska, formerly of Watertown, South Dakota was held Saturday, March 18, 2006 in the Crawford Funeral Chapel, Watertown, South Dakota. Fr. John Lantsberger officiated. Mrs. Kant died on March 16, 2006 at Butte Healthcare Center in Butte, Nebraska. She was the widow of Harlan Kant.
- Burial was in St. Mary's Cemetery, Watertown, South Dakota. Honorary and active pallbearers were James Acker; Dessi Boettcher, R.N.; Nicholas Caspers; Dick Kirsch; Lance Lampert; Beth Reynolds, R.N.; Kenneth Warne; Neil Warne; and Steve Warne.

• Caroline was born February 27, 1921 on a farm near Kranzburg, South Dakota to Paul Peter and Anna (Raml) Schaack. Caroline's mother died in 1922, and Caroline went to reside with her paternal uncle and aunt, William and Anna (Schaack) Schroeder and their daughter, Rosella, of Watertown, South Dakota. Caroline's father remarried in 1924, and he and his wife, Jennie (McPeck) Schaack had six more children. During those years, Caroline returned to their household. She graduated from Watertown High School in 1940, completed a one year normal course at Notre Dame Junior College, Mitchell, South Dakota in May of 1941, and then received a two-year diploma from Presentation Junior College in Aberdeen, South Dakota in 1959. Caroline began her teaching career in 1941 at Washington #42 rural school near Bryant, South Dakota (the Blogg School) where she lived with the Blogg Family during the week. The following year, she taught rural school at Esterly, near Florence, South Dakota. Caroline began teaching third grade students at Immaculate Conception School in Watertown in 1959. In addition, she taught at Holy Name Catholic School in Watertown.

• Caroline married Harlan R. Kant of Bryant, South Dakota on October 29, 1943 at Camp Edwards, Massachusetts. They were married at an Army base prior to Harlan's departure during WWII to participate in the battles of Iwo Jima, Saipan, and Tinian in the Marianna Islands. Their first daughter, Karen, was born in Watertown, South Dakota at Luther Hospital while her father was overseas. He did not see Karen until she was over a year old. Joanita was born in Watertown in 1947. Michele was born in Volga, South Dakota in 1950 at a time when the family resided in Ar

lington, South Dakota. During the next five years, the family lived in Watertown, South Dakota; Sioux Falls, South Dakota; Portland, Oregon (where many of the Kants from Bryant had relocated); and again in Watertown, where they finally established their permanent residence. From about 1971 to 1993, the couple lived in Apache Junction, Arizona; Mesa, Arizona; and Harlingen, Texas during the winter months. In widowhood, Mrs. Kant lived at Maple Place and Stoneybrook Suites Assisted Living. In 2003, Caroline moved to Sioux Falls, South Dakota where she resided at Covington Heights in the Beverly Healthcare system. Finally, in February 2005, she moved to Butte Health Care Center in Butte, Nebraska to be near a daughter.

- Caroline was a member of Watertown's Immaculate Conception and Holy Name Catholic parishes, having been baptized in Kranzburg's Holy Rosary parish. Organizations to which she belonged over the years included St. Teresa Circle, Little Flower Circle, Extension Club, St. Ann Hospital Auxiliary, the DAV and VFW Auxiliaries, Codington County Historical Society, Friends of the Museum, and Watertown Country Club. Caroline particularly enjoyed fishing, playing cards, china painting, golfing, gardening, and traveling in the United States and abroad. In the 1950's, she was a Brownie Scout leader in Sioux Falls. Since her grandparents came from Luxembourg, she enjoyed corresponding with a Schaack family member in Luxembourg for decades.

- Caroline is survived by three daughters: Karen Lamport of Hecla, South Dakota; Joanita and her husband, Paul Allen of rural Bristow, Nebraska; and Michele and her husband, Peter Caspers of rural Hecla, South Dakota; three half-brothers: Donald and his wife, Esther Schaack of Watertown, South Dakota; Richard and his wife, June Schaack of South Shore, South Dakota; and Kenneth and his wife, Karon Schaack of Pierre, South Dakota; a half-sister-in-law, Adeline Schaack of Watertown, South Dakota; as well as five grandchildren: Lance and Kara Lamport, Michelle Fisher, Curtis and Nicholas Caspers; four step-grandchildren: Nyal Allen, Molly Beumee, Amber Greer, and Cody Allen; one great-granddaughter, Lindsay Lamport; and two step-great-grandchildren, Madison Greer and N. Rex Allen.

- She was preceded in death by her husband; parents; step-mother; two half-sisters, Darlene Letze and Lorraine Acker; one half-brother Clifford Schaack; two infant grandsons: Kent and Peter Myron Caspers, Jr.; her paternal aunt and uncle, Anna and William Schroeder; and her cousin, Rosella Schroeder Morrison.